

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

626786

July 11, 1947

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MEADOW-FESCUE SEED PRODUCTION  
ABOUT ONE-FIFTH LARGER THAN 1946

Production of clean meadow-fescue seed is estimated at 1,450,000 pounds this year by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. This compares with 1,190,000 pounds last year and the 1941-45 average of 1,220,000 pounds. The indicated 22 percent increase over last year is due to the expected larger acreage and better yield per acre. In each of the producing States- Missouri, Kansas, and Indiana - prospective production exceeds that of last year, and is above average in Missouri and Indiana. Kansas production is indicated to be less than average.

The expansion in acreage is due chiefly to high prices received by growers during the last four years. The season-average price for the 1946 crop was \$19.80 per 100 pounds for clean seed compared with the 5-year average price of \$11.03.

Harvesting of the meadow-fescue seed crop, like that of other grass-seed crops, was later this year than usual. It began about July 1 in Missouri, July 7 in Kansas, and July 10 or later in Indiana.

There is practically no carry-over of this seed on farms. Stocks of old seed held by dealers on June 30, 1947 will be reported about August 8.

Exports of all kinds of fescue seed for the 11 months ended May were 627,003 pounds compared with 1,205,695 pounds for the same period a year earlier.

Imports of meadow-fescue seed for the 12 months ended June were 199,400 pounds compared with none last year and the 5-year average of 22,220 pounds.

Reports from Denmark indicate that the 1947 acreage of this seed is less than 1946 and a little below average. In 1946 about 12,000 acres were harvested compared with the 1941-45 average of 10,400 acres. Production of this seed in Denmark in 1946 was approximately 5,913,000 pounds compared with the average of 5,888,000 pounds.

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